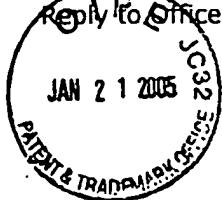


ENTER

Appln. No.: 10/615,196  
Amendment Dated January 18, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of November 16, 2004



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BBM-115US

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appln. No: 10/615,196  
Applicant: Brian E. Dalton  
Filed: July 7, 2003  
Title: SPINAL STABILIZATION IMPLANT AND METHOD OF APPLICATION  
T.C./A.U.: 3731  
Examiner: Daniel J. Davis  
Confirmation No.: 8029  
Docket No.: BBM-115US

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

**Expedited Procedure**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the Final Office Action dated November 16, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 2 of this paper.